

tion of work at the old place. I beg to get your decision.
establishment will be returned in the future.

Gray thinks that it is necessary to begin establishing
such an office gradually, that is, prior to his comple-
tion of work at the old place. I beg to get your decision.

Grant

25.8.45.

Gerson's evidence with respect to this follows:—

Q. In August, 1945, it is a fact, is it not, that great reductions in the
staff of Munitions and Supply were in the offing?

A. Yes, the war was practically over then.

Q. And people were concerned about their jobs?

A. Yes.

Q. *Gray proposes to form a geological-engineering consulting
office in Ottawa. Gray is a geological engineer by profession
and therefore can head this office.*

You are a geological engineer by profession?

A. A geologist by profession.

Q. Have you a degree?

A. Yes.

Q. What degree?

A. B.Sc. and M.Sc.

Q. Where from?

A. McGill.

Q. Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in what?

A. Geology.

Q. In geology?

A. Yes.

Q. *The expenses for organizing the office are as follows: Rent of
premises, \$600 a year; wages for one clerk, \$1,200 a year;
office equipment, \$1,000; payment to Gray as director, \$4,200
a year; altogether it will require \$7,000 a year. Gray stated that
Canada is entering a "boom" period in the mining industry,
and it is therefore very likely that within two years the office
will be in a position to support itself. The initial expenditure
of its establishment will be repaid in the future.*

Gray thinks that it is necessary to begin establishing the office gradually, that is, prior to his completion of work at the old place. I beg to get your decision.

As a matter of fact in August of 1945 you were considering opening your own office, were you not, as a geologist?

A. I had been considering it for a long time.

Q. And you were actively discussing it with various persons here in Ottawa at that time?

A. Here in Ottawa and in Montreal, both.

Q. And you were also endeavouring to see whether you could get financial backing, and applying to people in Ottawa for that purpose, were you not?

A. I would say, yes.

Q. And the figures that are set out here in Exhibit 20-M† are figures that you have discussed with various persons, as to what it would cost to see you through for two years?

A. They could be.

Q. But they were, were they not?

A. No, because this \$4,200, that is the salary I am getting now.

Q. And the salary you were getting in August, 1945?

A. The salary I was getting in August, 1945; yes.

Q. But in the discussions that you had, or what you had in your mind, were you figuring on rent of \$600 a year for an office, if you opened up?

A. I think it would cost you that much.

Q. And would you need a clerk at about \$1,200 a year, which is \$25 a week?

A. You would need a stenographer. I don't know why you would need a clerk.

Q. A stenographer at \$25 a week?

A. Yes.

Q. And you would need some office equipment?

A. Yes.

Q. Costing about a thousand dollars?

A. Yes, possibly.

Q. Then to keep you in the position that you were in, financially, you would need \$4,200 for yourself?

A. Not if you were going to open an office—

†See p. 28, telegram No. 263.

Q. I did not ask you that. In order to give you the same income you were then earning, you would have to have \$4,200 over and above those expenses?

A. Yes.

Q. And in August, 1945, was Canada entering a boom in the mining industry?

A. I think so.

Q. Did you think so then?

A. Well, I think so now, too.

9TH DOCUMENT

The ninth document is a telegram dated 25th August, 1945, dealing with certain information also credited to Gerson and having regard to modification of plans on production of war materials:—

265

To the Director,

1. In the change of plans of the output of war materials, sent to you in Gray's materials on 16th August, there was issued an announcement of the Ministry of Supply of England on the production of the following war materials:

Shells for 25-pounder gun—350,000 rounds; the same but only smoke shells—170,000 units; cases for the same guns one million fifty thousand; 6 lb. shells—30,000 rounds; 5.5 inch shells—180,000 rounds; grenades MK-2—221,000; grenades of the make WP—240,000 units; mines for PIAT—450,000 rounds.

(2) On 14th August an urgent announcement on production was issued by the General Staff; 25 pounder shells—850,000 rounds; smoke—150,000 rounds; cases for them—1,000,000; 17 lb. shells—90,000; 2 inch smoke mines—250,000; 3 inch mines—350,000, for PIAT—150,000 rounds and 3 inch smoke mines 31,440 units.

Grant.

25.8.45.

10TH DOCUMENT

The tenth document is another telegram sent by Zabolin to *The Director* on the 28th August, 1945, also crediting Gerson with information on explosives. It reads as follows:—

267

To the Director to No. 11295.

1. Your task on VV we have begun to fulfill. From Gray we received materials on "TorpeX" (VV for depth bombs). With the mail of 24th August were sent lamina with the above mentioned materials. In addition to this I sent you correspondence on the use of the double shell (17 lb. and 6 lb.—for cannon). According to what Canadians reported, this shell proved very effective in Europe.

2. All the materials are in laminae.

Grant.

28.8.45.

11TH DOCUMENT

Finally, on the mailing list of material sent to *The Director* in January, 1945, Gerson is again credited with having supplied the following material:—

Nos. P.P.	Source	From where & under what circumstances the material was obtained.	Designation of the Material	Date & Number	Number of pages	Marked
196	Gray	1 - 1	Corrections	7.12.44	1	Secret
197	"	"	"	27.11.44	6	None
198	"	"	"	29.11.44	2	

Questioned on that, the witness said:—

Q. By this list of materials, Items 196, 197 and 198, the Russian Embassy tells Moscow that they have received from *Gray*, by whom they understand Gerson, three documents described as "Corrections", one bearing the date of 27th November, 1944; and one bearing the date 29th November, 1944. These covered work in the Department of Munitions and Supply. It is a fact, is it not, that from time to time "Corrections" were being made both in your production schedules and in other matters?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Exhibit No. 218,† which we have already gone over, shows corrections in it?

A. Yes.

Q. And in addition to that, from time to time telegrams would come in from the Ministry of Supply, London, addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Ottawa, and forwarded in that manner to the Department of Munitions and Supply, and copies would go to Mr. Malley?

A. That is right.

Q. All the documents that went forward to Mr. Malley in the Department were available to be seen by you, were they not?

A. I would see them, yes.

That Gerson has, ever since September 1942, been a very active agent in the Soviet espionage organization, is clear from these documents, one of which (Exhibit 28) is in Gerson's own handwriting. That Gerson fully appreciated the implications to be drawn from the presence of this particular document in the Soviet Embassy, was patent to us.

Gerson had been interrogated under Order-in-Council P.C. 6444, and Inspector Harvison, who, on the instructions of his superiors, had conducted that interrogation, was called before us and gave the following evidence:—

Q. Will you tell the Commissioners what he had to say in relation to Exhibit 28?

A. I asked Mr. Gerson if he recognized the handwriting in this exhibit, and he said that it looked very much like his handwriting. I asked him if he had ever made notes from documents, if it was part of his duty to make such notes, and he said it was difficult to define his actual duties but that he had made notes. I asked him how the notes were filed away, and he said there was no filing system in his office for such notes. I asked if he could tell me where in his office I could find the notes that he stated he had made, and he said he could not. He did not know where his handwritten notes would be. That was on February 27, sir.

Q. Did you see him afterwards?

A. At the conclusion of this interrogation I told Mr. Gerson that I was suspending the interrogation for twenty-four hours, and that during that time I would like him to consider if, as a Canadian

†Secret file of forecast of Economics and Statistics Branch, Department of Munitions and Supply.

citizen, he was willing to assist his Government by supplying any information in his possession regarding Soviet espionage.

The following day I had Mr. Gerson brought to my office again, and asked him if he had made any decision. He said that there were a number of personal problems connected with the decision; that he found it extremely difficult, and asked me if I could give him until the following Saturday noon to arrive at a decision.

On the Saturday noon I again had him brought to my office and asked him if he had made a decision, and he said that he had. He said that he realized that the picture ahead was very dark for him; that he had made mistakes; that he would have to face the music himself, and that he would not be able to live with himself if he gave information that so-and-so had done such-and-such; and he used the expression, if I remember well, that he would not be able to live with himself if he 'put the finger on this man and that man'.

The examination of Gerson then being continued, he said:—

Q. In the first place you heard the evidence of the last witness?

A. Yes.

Q. You heard the evidence of the last witness, the gentleman who just went out?

A. You have a text; there was a stenographer in there. She took it, and there is the evidence.

Q. Do you understand the question I am putting to you?

A. No, I do not.

Q. I asked if you heard the evidence of the last witness?

A. I heard what Mr. Harvison said.

Q. Is what he said correct? Did he correctly say what took place in the interviews you had with him?

A. To a large extent, yes.

Q. You say to a large extent. What corrections or amendments do you want to make?

A. I don't want to make any amendments.

It is not difficult to conclude from the whole of Gerson's evidence, that after full consideration he had made up his mind to deny participation and to refuse to give information which in our opinion he was in a position to give and which it was his duty to give.

Gerson was a Communist. In addition to Rose, he had associations with Poland, Benning, Boyer, Lunan, Shugar and Adams.

Having been directed by the terms of Order-in-Council P.C. 411 "to enquire into and report upon public officials and other persons in positions of trust or otherwise who have communicated directly or indirectly secret and confidential information, the disclosure of which might be inimical to the safety and interests of Canada, to the agents of a Foreign Power and the facts relating thereto and the circumstances surrounding such communication", we are of opinion on the evidence that Gerson did communicate, over a considerable period, secret information to agents of the Soviet Union in violation of *The Official Secrets Act*, 1939.

SECTION III. 10

PF 123.075

[SAMUEL SOL BURMAN,] Montreal

Among the documents which Gouzenko brought with him from the Embassy were two sheets torn from a notebook. He testified that they had once formed part of a notebook in which Lieutenant-Colonel Motinov drafted telegrams to Moscow for Colonel Zabotin's approval. One such telegram which Gouzenko said was coded by him and sent off reads as follows:—

*Despatched***To the Director, Reference N.**

I am communicating to you the arrangements for Berman's meeting in London. The meeting will take place two weeks after Berman's departure from Montreal, counting the first Sunday after his departure as the date of his departure, even if he should have left on a Wednesday. The meeting will take place at 15 o'clock on Sunday, in front of the office of the High Commissioner for Canada, London, S.W.1 (Canada House, Trafalgar Sq.). If on the first Sunday it does not take place, it will be transferred to the next Sunday at the same hour and so on until contact is established. Berman will be in civilian clothes—brown suit (tweed) checkered, without a hat, with a newspaper in his right hand.

Pass-word: "How's Elsie?"**Berman will reply: "She's fine".**

Thereupon our man will hand over to him a letter signed "Frank".

If the meeting at the designated place should prove impossible, or inconvenient for us, Berman will send his address to his wife, the latter will give it to Debouz, and the latter to us and it may be possible to undertake the meeting at the address of his living quarters. When you will advise us that the meeting will be more convenient at the apartment, then we will tell Debouz and he will tell Berman's wife. Berman's wife will write him a letter with the following sentence:

"Ben has not been feeling too well". After that he will await the meeting at his apartment.

Supplementary data.

He joined the Party in 1938. ~~Had-a-business~~ *
Worked as an insurance agent. His wife joined the Party in 1939. During the illegal period he worked in the central apparatus of the Party on organizational work.

This appears in the notebook following the date 28.4.44, which relates to another telegram. The words in the heading "Reference N" mean that this telegram is a reply to one from Moscow bearing a number which was not filled in in the draft but which would appear in the cyphered document. The telegram also bears a note in Motinov's writing: "Despatched". Debouz is, of course, Fred Rose.

As to Burman, Gouzenko testified as follows:—

Q. The last telegram, a part of Exhibit 34—the last draft telegram refers to Burman. Is Burman a nickname or cover name, or the name of a person, a real name?

A. I think it is a real name.

Q. Do you know anything about Burman other than what is in this document?

A. This was the first time I saw him, in this document.

Q. The first time you ever saw the name Burman was in this document, Exhibit 34?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you hear anything about him, in addition to what you saw in the document?

A. Oh, yes. Colonel Zabolotin sent a telegram to Moscow that there was sent to Moscow with Tounkin the biography and photograph of Burman.

Tounkin occupied the post of Counsellor at the Embassy. His name also appears in Section VI dealing with Rabinowitch.

On another page Motinov had started to draft the above telegram but crossed it out before finishing, possibly because it was not clear. This reads as follows:—

To the Director with reference to No.

Today we received through Debouz: a photograph of Berman and a letter signed by Debouz for Berman. Hereunder I am giving the arrangements for a meeting

* Faint type indicates words crossed out in original documents.

worked out by Debouz for Berman. Berman will know one thing, that the letter will be given him by Debouz's man. The latter is known to him as Frank. The meeting must take place two weeks after the departure of B. from Montreal counting Sunday, in front of the building (office) of the High Commissioner of Canada Sunday at 15 o'clock. If it should not take place—it will be carried over to the following Sunday at the same time and so on until the meeting takes place.

From these documents it appears that Burman, who was going to England on duty, was to be brought into contact in London with an agent working there who was to be known to Burman as "*Frank*". This English agent was to hand Burman a letter which would be signed "*Frank*". It does not appear what this letter would contain. It might be that it would give Burman instructions about work that he was to do, or it might be, and we think this to be more likely, that it would serve merely as part of the identification of the English agent, in which case Burman's instructions for the future would come either from the English agent or have been well understood by Burman before he left this country and were perhaps set out in the letter from *Debouz* (Fred Rose) to Burman. Burman had been trained in the army to act on the civil affairs staff in occupied countries and this may explain the interest of the Russians in him.

Burman left Halifax for the United Kingdom on September 7, 1944. He was a resident of Montreal, being engaged in the insurance business at the time of enlistment in April, 1943. His wife's name is Elsa and he has a brother Barnett who, he testified, is known as "*Ben*". Burman was in England from September, 1944 to March, 1945 and from October, 1945 until repatriated in due course to Canada in November, 1945.

As to the particulars given in the telegram concerning him the following given in evidence by Burman is to be noted:—

- Q. While you were in London did you have occasion to go to Canada House on Trafalgar Square?
- A. I never went there. The only time I was anywhere around there was at C.M.H.Q. I was at C.M.H.Q. two or three times.
- Q. Do you know where Canada House is?
- A. Right at the corner of C.M.H.Q.
- Q. How long after your arrival in London, in England, did you go there?

A. I went up to London, I think we had a day's leave, a day or two, about the 26th September. I think that was a day or two, but I am not certain. I cannot remember the exact dates.

Q. 1944?

A. 1944. It was either the end of September or the beginning of October, some time around then.

Q. Where was C.M.H.Q. located with respect to Canada House?

A. They are both on Cockspur Street. C.M.H.Q. is the centre of the block, right across from the Canadian Officers' Club on the other side of the street, and Canada House, I believe, is right at the corner.

Q. And do you say that when you left Canada on the 7th September you did not bring any civilian clothes with you? May I suggest that you had a brown suit with you?

A. I had a pair of flannels and I had a sports jacket.

Q. What was the colour?

A. Heather tweed; a heather shade of tweed.

Q. Brown?

A. Could be called brown, I suppose; mixed heather.

Q. I will ask you this question and the answer will be quite easy to remember. You were in England and you wore civilian clothes. What kind of hat did you wear?

A. I had no hat.

Q. No hat. What kind of coat did you wear? Was it a raincoat or another kind of coat?

A. The only coat I ever had with me was my army coat.

Q. A raincoat?

A. My trench coat.

Q. And no hat?

A. No hat.

When the telegram which was sent off was read to Burman in the witness box, he said in part:—

(Reading from the telegram):—

If the first Sunday it does not take place, it will be transferred to the next Sunday at the same hour, etc. until contact is established. Burman will be in civilian clothes—brown suit (tweed), a raincoat without a hat, with a newspaper in his right hand.

Q. Just stop there. Where would that information come from, Mr. Burman?

A. I do not know, sir.

Q. It describes your clothing, does it not?

A. I did not have a suit; all I had was a pair of flannels and a sports jacket with me.

Q. I know.

A. I never wore that until August, 1945, the end of August, 1945.

Q. I did not ask you that. I just say that describes your clothing that you had, does not it?

A. In some respects it seems to.

Q. You were in London in September or the early part of October, 1945?

A. 1945?

Q. 1944, I am sorry?

A. I think I was.

Q. Whatever you said before has been taken down, but I have a note about it here. I am asking you where did that information come from and get into the Russian Embassy, if not from you?

A. I have no idea.

Q. Or your wife?

A. It is fantastic, really.

Q. It is not fantastic; it is in the document that is being read to you.

A. I cannot understand it.

Q. Read a little more and maybe it will help you.

Q. "*Password; 'How's Elsie?'*". What is the name of your wife?

A. My wife's name is Elsa.

Q. "*Berman will reply: 'She's fine.'*"

Q. All I am asking you, Mr. Burman, is how that could get into the document. Can you suggest anything except from yourself or your wife?

A. I do not know, sir.

Q. What would be the point of anybody in the Russian Embassy writing that down if that was not real information?

A. I cannot imagine, sir; I do not know.

Q. *"If the meeting at the designated place appears impossible or inconvenient for us, Berman will send his address to his wife."*

You wrote to your wife, of course?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. *"If the meeting at the designated place appears impossible or inconvenient for us, Berman will send his address to his wife, the latter will give it to Debouz."*

Debouz has been identified as Fred Rose. You know Fred Rose?

A. I have never met Mr. Rose, sir.

Q. No, but you have attended meetings where he was.

A. Yes.

Q. You have attended meetings where he was?

A. Yes, sir, I have.

Q. Did your wife know him?

A. I do not think so, sir; I do not think she does.

Q. She does not tell you everything?

A. I do not know if she does or not, sir.

Q. Does not tell you everything about the West End Club, does she?

A. I do not know whether she does or not.

Q. *"The latter will give it to Debouz, and the latter to us and it may be possible to undertake the meeting at the address of his living quarters. When you will advise us that the meeting will be more convenient at the apartment, then we will tell Debouz, and he will tell Berman's wife."*

You notice that the writer of that document does not even take the trouble to give you a cover name, and he does it for Rose.

"Berman's wife will write him a letter with the following sentence: 'Ben has not been feeling too well.'"

You stated at the beginning of your examination that you had someone who was known to you and your wife and called Ben.

A. My brother's name is Barnett; known as Ben.

Q. *"After that he will await contact at his apartment. Supplementary data. He joined the Party in 1938."*

COUNSEL FOR THE WITNESS: That is part of the document?

COUNSEL TO COMMISSION: Yes.

Q. Is that correct?

A. No, it is not.

- Q. What have you to say about that?
- A. About what?
- Q. Entering the Party in 1938?
- A. What Party are they referring to?
- Q. You said "No" without knowing what Party this dealt with?
- A. I never entered any Party. I have never been a member of any Party.
- Q. I will continue with the supplementary data on Burman of Montreal who left for London with a brown tweed suit, without a hat and a raincoat, worked as an insurance agent. You were working as an insurance agent?
- A. That was my business, sir.
- Q. *"His wife joined the Party in 1939".*
What do you say as to that?
- A. As far as I know she is not a member of any Party.
- Q. *"During the illegal period he worked in the central apparatus of the Party on organizational work."*
What do you say as to that?
- A. It is fantastic, sir. I do not know what it refers to at all.
- Q. It refers to a man whose name is "Berman". It refers to a man whose business is insurance, living in Montreal, and who left for London?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. It refers to another name which happens to be this man's wife's name. It is fantastic if it is not true, is it not?
- A. Yes, sir, that is right.
- Q. Is that all you have to say to that?
- A. I have nothing else to add.
- Q. Do you know anyone else who would have all that description? Besides all that identification which definitely points to you and nobody else but you, you have that Ben mentioned.
- A. I cannot understand it, sir.
-
- Q. Well, you are identified with the document, first of all by your name. Second, by your wife's name. Then by the name of Rose. Then by the fact that you went to London. Then by the fact that you went close to the place where the place of meeting was. Then by your raincoat. Then by the fact you had come from Montreal. Then by the fact that you were in the insurance business. Besides all that, by the fact that you did not know anyone by that name

that would fit into that description. Is there any explanation that you would care to give to that?

A. I have not any, no; I do not know anything about it.

Q. Do you know anyone who would have an interest in you to give all those details to the Russian people?

A. I do not know why anyone should.

Q. You may have, Mr. Burman, a very reasonable explanation to offer. I do not know. I told you at the beginning of this examination that you may have been an unconscious agent. I am not saying "conscious", I am saying "unconscious". You may have been an unconscious agent. I am asking you if you have an explanation to offer, and any suggestion to give for your own benefit.

A. I know that I have not any; I do not know anything about it.

Q. You have no suggestion; you can give no explanation; you have nothing to say about that document?

A. No, nothing at all.

Q. There is another document that you may care to see, Mr. Burman. It has been filed as Exhibit 35. It is also a document coming from the Embassy, written in Russian by Colonel Motinov whose handwriting has been identified here. This one was written before the previous exhibit, and it was to be sent to Moscow, but the evidence is that it was not, that this one was not sent. The other one was sent to The Director in Moscow. This is addressed to The Director also:—

"Today we received through Debouz—"

That is Fred Rose.

"—a photograph of Berman and a letter signed by Debouz for Berman."

Can you explain how your photograph would reach the Russian Embassy?

A. I don't know. I don't know how it could.

Q. Pardon?

A. I don't know how it could.

Q. My question is—you may have some imagination, I do not know, even if you have no memory; but can you find any suggestion of any explanation for the existence of that document in the Russian Embassy and for the recital of all these facts which are so fitting to your person?

- A. I am afraid I cannot.
- Q. Do you appreciate the value of what is suggested, of what is implied in these exhibits?
- A. I would say that it is pretty serious.
- Q. And yet there is no explanation, no suggestion, no idea that you can give the Commissioners here?
- A. I have no explanation for it at all. I don't know what it means. I don't know what it refers to.

- Q. You are not asked that. You are asked if you understand the purport of the document.
- A. I think the document is fairly clear.
- Q. And could you know, or could you have any idea of any person using your name?
- A. I don't know for what purpose, sir.
- Q. So you have no explanation whatsoever to offer for the recital of all those details which are connected to you, or which connect this document to your person?
- A. No, I have not.

On the subject of the Communist Party Burman displayed the same evasion and secrecy exhibited by so many of the witnesses on the same subject. We have no difficulty on the evidence, after hearing him and seeing him, in coming to the conclusion that the telegram correctly reflects his political affiliation. Burman knew of Lunan in 1938 (although he says he did not actually meet him) in the *Civil Liberties Union* in Montreal. Lunan's evidence as to this period is as follows:—

- Q. Was your wife a Communist? Is your wife a Communist?
- A. My wife I think is a member of the Labour-Progressive Party.
- Q. Your wife has been a Communist, to your knowledge, since your marriage?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Since 1939?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You resided in Montreal for some time at 3610 Oxenden Street?
- A. Oxenden Avenue.
- Q. And you had several meetings of the Communist group there?
- A. Yes.

Q. Was your wife a member of the group, too?

A. No, she was not.

Q. Was she a member of some other group?

A. I don't know. I simply met her as a girl friend.

Q. But since your marriage?

A. Oh, I think she has belonged to various groups.

Q. Various Communist groups?

A. Yes.

Q. Never in the same group as yourself?

A. No.

Q. I am covering the whole period you belonged to the Communist Party and you were having these meetings?

A. I can remember distinctly a meeting—not a meeting, but a visit of Tim Buck and Fred Rose sometime in the spring of 1943, because I was in the army at that time, and I had come home on leave.

Q. So you were definitely well known to Rose, and you knew him very well when you met him on the train?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. What about Raymond Boyer? When did you meet him?

A. Boyer I met originally through my wife. At the time I think Boyer was in the Civil Liberties Union, which was—

Q. A political organization?

A. If you wish.

Q. And the word "political" in this instance is being used as "Communist"?

A. No; I think that would not truly represent the views of all members of the Civil Liberties Union, to call them Communists.

Q. What?

A. It would not truly represent the views of all members of the Civil Liberties Union to call them Communists.

Q. But you say there were several Communists?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. In other words, if I understand the situation correctly, the Communists have their own secret organization, their own groups, which carry on their secret operations, and they also join other groups which are operating in the open?

A. I think they feel free to join any group.

Q. Not only free, but they would be interested?

A. Yes, in special groups.

Q. With the idea of controlling the other organizations, if possible?

A. Well, with the idea of advancing their own opinions.

Burman testified:—

Q. 1938 is just the time that Exhibit 34[†] says you joined the Communist Party. Is that the time you met Lunan, about that time? You said you did not meet him, but the time you became associated with him?

A. I was active in the Spanish Committee, sir. There was a Spanish Committee and I used to collect funds. I was very much interested in the Spanish Committee.

Q. That was the Committee for sending soldiers over to Spain, was it?

A. It was the Committee that was looking after Spanish children and I think it was supporting sending soldiers to Spain.

Q. What surprises me is that you say you were very active in that Committee, and then you say you think something about it?

A. I was interested in going out and collecting money.

Q. Do you know what the Spanish Committee was doing, to your knowledge?

A. I am afraid I was never on the inner councils or anything. As far as I know, it was supporting—we used to raise funds to support soldiers going over there to Spain.

Q. You knew that?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. Well, a few minutes ago you just thought that?

A. As far as I know, that was the purpose. I never sent them over, or anything like that.

Q. (*A picture of David Gordon Lunan was shown to the witness*). Where did you meet Lunan? Tell the Commissioners what you know about him?

A. I don't know anything about Lunan. I have never met him.

[†]See p. 2 above.

Q. Where did you see his picture?

A. You have just showed it to me.

Q. But before that?

A. I have seen it in the papers.

Q. What did you mean when you said you had never met him officially?

A. I have seen him.

Q. Will you develop that idea, that you have not met the man officially, please? Take your time and tell us what you know unofficially about him, and when you met him unofficially?

A. I have seen him at meetings.

Q. What meetings?

A. I think it was in connection with the Civil Liberties Union.

Q. And then explain that, will you please, Mr. Burman? We are interested to find out what you know about him, so would you mind telling us what you know about him?

A. I don't know anything about him at all. I know that he was—I think he used to speak for the Civil Liberties Union.

Q. All right. Where was that? We would get on much faster if you were to tell us what you know about him without forcing me to put the questions to you.

A. I know, but this is a long time.

Q. What do you mean by a long time?

A. Probably away back in 1939 or 1938.

Burman attended meetings of a Communist Club in Montreal after his return from overseas in November, 1945 and is a subscriber to the *Canadian Tribune* and *National Affairs Monthly*. Although the attendance at the club did not exceed fifteen persons, his memory as to these persons is poor. His evidence is characteristic of a good deal of the evidence of other witnesses to which we have listened:—

Q. Will you tell the Commissioners what you know about the West End Club of the Labour-Progressive Party?

A. I don't know anything about the West End Club of the Labour-Progressive Party, sir.

Q. You don't know anything about it?

A. No sir.

Q. Well, we will have to inform you that there have been a number of meetings of that club at your own home?

A. I am not a member of any club like that.

Q. I am asking you what you know about it, even if you are not a member?

A. I know there is a club.

Q. Then tell us what you know about that club?

Q. You know there is a club by that name?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

Q. Then tell us what you know about it. That is what you are asked.

A. I don't know very much about it, sir. I know it is a club that meets in the west end.

Q. Of the Labour-Progressive Party?

A. That is what it is called, sir.

Q. What is your reluctance in telling us about it? Go ahead.

A. I don't really know much about it, sir. I have not been associated with it. I know some of the people who belong to it.

Q. Well, who are they?

A. I don't know what—I will ask you, sir—

Q. You just answer the question. You said you knew some people. Now, just answer the question and give the names?

A. I have seen people around there. I don't know whether they are members or not.

Q. Don't be sure not to give too many details. You have seen people around there, and you do not know whether they are members or not. My question is, who were the people you knew who belonged to that club?

A. I am not sure whether they belonged to it or not; people I have seen—

Q. You said you knew people who belonged to it. I am asking you who they are. Is that clear?

A. Well, who seemed to belong to it. I am not sure whether they belonged or not.

Q. I am still asking you who they are. Tell their names, whether you know they belong to it, or not.

A. I have seen Mr. Bailey.

Q. What is his first name?

A. I think it is Max Bailey.

Q. Have you seen Reuben Ginsberg?

A. I have seen him around; yes.

Q. In the same way that you have seen Max Bailey?

A. They have been in the same group.

Q. And who else?

A. I can't think of the names now.

Q. Is it a secret?

A. No, sir; just that I am trying to think of some of the people that I have seen there.

Q. You said you knew several people. You have mentioned two. You are certainly giving me the impression that there is something secret about it.

A. I have seen Miss Truax there.

Q. Do you know her first name?

A. No, I do not.

COUNSEL FOR THE WITNESS: Beryl Truax. She is a teacher in the Westmount High School, and a former Labor-Progressive Party candidate in my constituency.

COUNSEL TO THE COMMISSION: Is that the name?

A. I believe so.

Q. Where have you seen these people; at your home?

A. No, I don't believe they have ever been at my home.

Q. Where have you seen them to identify them in this club?

A. I have seen them in this group. I have been trying to think of some of the people that I did see.

Q. We will come back to that in a minute. I have asked where you have seen them?

A. At various homes.

Q. Well, where? That is exactly nothing when you say "various homes". Where have you seen them? Don't waste our time, Mr. Burman.

A. I am sorry; I am trying to help. I am trying to think of the places. I can't remember the homes, sir.

Q. These meetings of this club that you have talked about, where you have seen these people—you must have been there yourself?

A. Yes, I have attended some meetings.

Q. Of the club?

A. Yes.

Q. And how many in the club on the occasions that you have been there, if you cannot remember any more names?

A. Well, I should say about fifteen.

Q. That is just a guess. And during what period were you attending these meetings?

A. I attended a couple of meetings since I have been back.

Q. When did you get back?

A. I got back on November 21, 1945.

Q. And you mean to say you cannot remember any place where you attended those meetings since November 21, last?

A. I don't remember the addresses, sir; I don't remember the locations.

Q. I did not ask you the locations. I asked you the names of the homes.

A. No, sir, I don't remember them.

Q. What is there so secret about the meetings of this West End Labour-Progressive Club?

A. I don't know, sir. I haven't any idea. I am not a member of the club myself. I don't know much about it.

Q. But you are interested enough to attend it on a number of occasions, even since you got back from overseas?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is there to hide about it?

A. I don't think there is anything to hide about it, sir, frankly. I just don't know much about it.

Q. You cannot even remember where they met, or more than two or three other persons beside yourself who were there, when you say there perhaps were fifteen. I am asking you, what is secret about this thing?

A. I don't think there is anything secret about it at all, sir.

Q. I suppose if you attended meetings of this kind since your return from overseas, you attended similar meetings before you went overseas, did you?

A. I don't think I attended any meetings of the Labour-Progressive Party, sir, before I went overseas.

Q. You are not sure about that?

A. I don't think I did, sir.

Q. Did you attend similar meetings where similar subjects were discussed?

A. I am not sure, sir.

Q. You may have?

A. I may have. I am not sure.

Q. And at this West End Club, what did they discuss on the occasions you were there; or do you remember that?

A. If I remember correctly, sir, I think there was a discussion on housing.

Q. That is all?

A. I don't remember the rest of the discussion.

Q. Marxism?

A. There wasn't any of that when I was there.

Q. Have you studied Marxism yourself at any time?

A. I have never studied Marxism, sir, at all.

Q. Been present at discussions where it was discussed?

A. It could be. Not as such. How do you mean, sir?

Q. My question is plain enough; you answer it any way you like.
(No audible answer).

Q. You say you came back from Europe in November of 1945?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And do you remember when you first attended one of these meetings when you came back?

A. I don't remember, sir.

Q. Who asked you to attend a meeting?

A. I don't remember that either, sir.

Q. Oh, you must have been invited by somebody there, to one of these meetings?

A. I don't remember.

Q. Who notified you that there was a meeting being held, and gave you the date on which the meeting would be held?

A. I don't recall, sir.

Q. You can't recall that?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you go to these meetings in February, 1946?

A. I don't know.

Q. In 1946, you have been to these meetings?

A. I don't remember; it was in 1945 or 1946.

Q. But you attended a couple of these meetings since you are back, you said?

A. I think I have attended two.

Q. And you could not say where; you do not know who were present, and you do not know who asked you to go?

A. I would try and remember the places. I can't remember them right now.

Q. It is a complete blank as to who asked you to go?

A. I don't remember at all.

Q. You don't remember at all?

A. No.

Q. And as to who were present, also you do not remember at all?

A. I can't remember now, sir.

Burman also is not sure as to just what kind of paper the *Canadian Tribune* is although he has been a subscriber for some years:—

Q. Well, were you ever a subscriber to the *Canadian Tribune*?

A. Yes, I have—

Q. Since how long?

A. I do not know how long. I have subscribed to lots of things. I have to.

Q. What else did you subscribe to, the same kind of paper, the *Clarion*?

A. No.

Q. *The Worker*?

A. No.

Q. What other papers of a similar trend did you subscribe to?

A. I think I had a subscription to *The Commonwealth*.

Q. What is that?

A. That is a C.C.F. paper.

Q. I am speaking of papers of the trend of the *Canadian Tribune*, Mr. Burman?

A. I do not think there are any other papers like that; I do not think I did.

Q. No other papers like that, all right. What sort of paper is the *Canadian Tribune*?

A. As far as I know it is a left-wing paper.

Q. Would you call it a Communist paper?

A. I suppose you could; I do not know whether it is a Communist paper or not.

Q. You do not know?

A. (no audible answer.)

Q. Are you a subscriber at the present time?

A. I think I have still a subscription there, sir. I have not noticed. I have not made any payments of any kind for—

Q. You do not know whether it is a Communist paper or not?

A. I do not know whether it is a Communist paper. It is a left-wing paper, very definitely.

- Q. What does that mean?
- A. Well, it is a Labour paper.
- Q. How long have you been a subscriber to the paper, how many years?
- A. Frankly I do not know, sir.
- Q. Well, two years, five years, ten years?
- Q. Did you receive it when you were overseas, Mr. Burman?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you receive it since you are back?
- A. Yes, it has been coming.
- Q. Did you subscribe since November, 1945?
- A. No.
- Q. How did you get it then if you did not get it when you were overseas and are getting it since you are back?
- A. It has been coming to the house.
- Q. Coming to the house?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Without a subscription?
- A. No, it has been coming to the house, sir. I must have subscribed some time. I could probably look up my office cheques. I probably have a cheque there somewhere, and I could probably find that out.
- Q. Does it come to you or to your wife?
- A. It is addressed to me, sir.
- Q. Is your wife a member of the Labour-Progressive Party?
- A. I do not think so.
- Q. You do not know?
- A. As far as I know she is not.
- Q. Still you have not answered my question. I asked you how long have you been getting that paper, the *Canadian Tribune*, how many years?
- A. I am afraid I cannot remember that, sir.
- Q. Five years?
- A. I do not think so; I do not think it was that long.
- Q. Four years?
- A. I really do not know.
- Q. What?
- A. I really do not know. I was not—maybe four years.

Q. Did you know that it is the paper which campaigned to have the ban lifted on the Communist Party?

A. I believe so.

Q. You knew that, did you?

A. I think so, sir.

Q. Is there any doubt in your mind as to what sort of paper it is?

A. I say I believe that it is a Labour paper.

Q. You would not go as far as saying it is a Communist paper, would you?

A. I do not know whether it is a Communist paper or not. I believe it is a Labour paper, sir.

Q. That is your answer?

A. Yes, sir.

It is not entirely irrelevant also to note that Burman knew both Benning and Gerson and had associations with them before he enlisted.

All of this evidence establishes that Burman was of the same soil as that from which the other willing agents of Col. Zabotin were drawn. It also establishes the essential accuracy of the statements in the telegram with respect of Burman's family, occupation, political history and civilian clothing. There is no reason to think the other statements in the telegram are any less accurate. The whole document was written in order to have Moscow arrange at that end for the meeting in London.

Burman's name also appears in Section IV (3) of this Report, dealing with Gottheil, and reference may be made to that section. A channel of information to the Soviet Embassy by way of Sam Carr is there indicated.

Being required by the terms of Order in Council P.C. 411 to "inquire into and report upon which public officials and other persons in positions of trust or otherwise, have communicated directly or indirectly secret and confidential information, the disclosure of which might be inimical to the safety and interests of Canada, to the agents of a foreign power" we cannot report in the case of Burman that he did so communicate, but we think the story told by the above documents relates to this witness as there set out. There is no evidence before us showing that the London meeting actually took place.

SECTION III. 11

PF 123.074.

[RAYMOND BOYER, Montreal]

In the Embassy records brought away by Gouzenko, references are made to this man. In a notebook written up by Colonel Zabotin himself there is the following:

Prior to Reorganization

Director Davie

1. Fred—director of corporation.

Previously worked at the neighbours, up to 1924. In May-June 1942 came to Davie with a proposal to help. Davie checked up on Fred through New York (Molier). The neighbours proposed to make use of Fred. After this, in 1942 in September, Fred contacted Davie on instructions from Molier. Molier was sent to work in Ottawa, for organizing the work. (At the present time on the electoral lists to parliament in Quebec.)

Fred's Work

Group in Montreal (activists)

1. Gray

Jew. Head of a section of the Directorate for securing war materials for the Allies. Taken on to the work on 1.9.42. He works well. Gives materials on shells and cannons (on films).

2. Green PF. 709568.

Works in the administration of the Tank plant "Locomotive" in Montreal. Assistant to the superintendent of the section on contracts. A key position. Gives information on the numbers of tanks being delivered—only.

3. Professor

Frenchman. Noted chemist, about 40 years of age. Works in McGill University, Montreal. Is the best of the specialists on VV on the American Continent. Gives full information on explosives and chemical plants. Very rich. He is afraid to work. (Gave the formula of RDX, up to the present there was no evaluation from the boss.)

Gave about OV.

The words "before reorganization" refer to the net-work of agents headed by Sokolov before Zabotin arrived in June, 1943, to take over. These notes indicate that the *Professor*, the name used to indicate Boyer in the Embassy records at that time, was a member of a group of agents operating under Fred Rose. These notes were evidently written shortly after Zabotin's arrival as Rose was "on the list of Parliamentary candidates in Quebec" by August 9th, 1943, the date of his official nomination.

On the mailing list of January 5, 1945, item 108 is as follows:

Nos. P.P.	Source	From where and under what circumstances the material was obtained	Designation of the Material	Date & Number	Number of Pages	Marked
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
108	Debouz	Notes	Conversation with Profess. decisions secr. session of Parliament	No date	1	None

This document is a note evidently taken by Rose of a discussion he had had with Boyer. It refers to decisions made in the secret session of Parliament which in fact had been held November 28th, 1944.

Boyer is also referred to in certain cables passing between Zabotin and *The Director*.

On August 9th, 1945, *The Director* sent the following telegram to Zabotin:

11295

14.8.45

To Grant.

In the mail of 23.8.1944 were received from you Gray's two materials—the monthly reports on the research of separate technical questions in the field of production of war supplies. On the basis of the short and fragmentary data it is impossible to judge the methods and work of the Canadian and English industry of war supplies, powders and chemical materials.

It is desired to obtain the following information:—

1. 27 methods 2507 and technical processes of the production of war supplies, VV and powders.
2. Deciphering of laminated VV, the production of T. H. and H. S. (composition, purpose, technology and specific qualities).

*

* Faint type indicates words crossed out in original documents.

3. The application of picrate and nitrate-gushnidina.
I repeat: picrate and nitro-gushnidina.

4. The technique of producing detonating capsules and igniting capsules. Wire to whom do you consider it possible to give this task.

If Bacon still continues to work in the Artillery ~~Committee~~ Committee, this task should be assigned to him. *

9.8.45 Director.

Grant
14.8.45

(VV is a Russian abbreviation for high explosive (HE). The reference to T.H. and H.S. was explained in the evidence: it refers to mustard gas. "Nitrate-gushnidina" is nitro-guanidine).

Upon this telegram Zabotin wrote his signature and the date the 14th August, 1945, as above, and on the same date cabled the following reply:

To the Director, with reference to No. 11295

1. The tasks will be assigned to Gray, to Bacon and to the Professor through Debouz. The Professor is still away on a business trip. There will be a meeting with Debouz at the end of this month.
2. Martin received a reply from Dekanozov with permission to leave for home. As a result of Martin's work at the San Francisco Conference and his sickness, about a month, the latter was unable to write reports on your task. The questions of the present-day situation in Canada after the elections and the distribution of the class forces in the country, he will write here and we will send them to you by regular mail, while the remaining questions of the task he will write at the center.

14.8.45

Grant

Martin referred to in the second paragraph is Zheveinov of TASS. Dekanozov is one of the Assistant Commissars of Foreign Affairs. The Centre is Red Army Intelligence Headquarters at Moscow.

In his evidence with regard to Boyer, Gouzenko gave the following testimony:

Q. Before you go to 109, (on the mailing list of January 5, 1945) on the fourth line of 108 you have 'professor'.

A. Yes; I am sorry.

* Faint type indicates word crossed out in original documents.

Q. Is 'professor' a code name, a cover name?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know to whom that refers?

A. In this case that applies to Professor Boyer of McGill University.

Q. How do you know that? Where did you get that information?

A. Usually this agent was referred to as *The Professor* only, but on one occasion when there was a discussion about the atomic bomb and the professor's name came up in the discussion, Colonel Zabotin mentioned Professor Boyer.

Further Gouzenko said:

Q. The reference here to sums of money being sent—in the documents which have already been put in here before the Commission there are references to the payments of moneys to various agents. You have seen those, have you not?

A. That is right.

Q. And that only deals with payments of which we have a record in the documents here. Were other payments being made to agents from time to time?

A. Yes, of course.

Q. And did you at any time see the records of those payments?

A. I coded telegrams in which accounts of those payments were made.

Q. Did you yourself ever have anything to do with making payments to any agents?

A. No.

Q. That went through Grant? All those payments were made through Grant?

A. Grant had charge of the operative funds, which he handed to Motinov for payment. Motinov was responsible for the agency work.

Q. So that on certain telegrams that we have seen up to now we see that certain payments have been made to certain agents; but it is to your knowledge that other payments have been made?

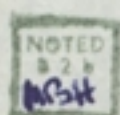
A. That is right.

Q. To persons already mentioned?

A. It is hard to remember. Each agent received money from the contact man who met him.

Q. So do you mean to say that they were all paid?

A. As far as I know they would all receive money, with the exception of such a man as *The Professor*, who was very rich and did not need money.



A. That is right.

Gouzenko also produced from a notebook used by both Zabotin and Motinov, a page containing the following in the handwriting of Motinov:—

Professor

Research Council—report on the organization and work. Freda to the professor through GRIERSON.

Q. That was Professor Boyer of Montreal?

As to this Gouzenko said:—

Q. This will be Exhibit No. 37, and I will read you a translation and ask you to say if it is correct. 'Professor, Research Council—report on the organization and work.

Freda to the Professor through Grierson.'

A. That is right.

Q. Who is Grierson?

A. From the documents which I have read I have assumed that that is Grierson of the Canadian Film Board, Chairman of the National Film Board.

Q. That is the Canadian National Film Board?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the meaning of that: 'Freda to the Professor through Grierson'?

A. I understand it means that they wished to appoint Freda to work with *The Professor*, through Grierson. I want to explain.

Q. Yes, I would like you to explain that.

A. The work that Freda was doing in the Film Board was not satisfactory to Moscow. Therefore they asked Colonel Zabotin to place her in some more important department. Therefore it looks as if Colonel Zabotin was to place Freda to work with *The Professor*, using Grierson's influence to get her into the position.

RDX is an explosive, the new method of preparing which had been improved in England up to 1942. Its full name was Research Department Explosive, of which the letters RDX are a contraction. The work done on this explosive in Canada is described by Dr. Cambron, the Assistant Director of the Chemistry Division of the National Research Council, as follows:—

Q. Did the National Research Council develop or improve RDX between 1942 and the close of the war?

A. Yes, to a very large extent. Actually the work started before 1942.

Q. So I understand.

A. And as a result of that work and the work done after 1942 a practical method of producing the explosive on a large scale was developed. But it might be added at this point that considerable assistance was obtained from the United States in that development. It was actually a joint effort. It becomes a joint effort after the initial work at Montreal.

Q. The National Research Council was doing the work in Canada?

A. That is right.

Q. What was the opposite number in the United States?

A. N.D.R.C.; that is the National Defence Research Committee, which was a division of O.S.R.D., the Office of—I don't remember what that means, actually.

Q. And was there a free exchange of information between the two, the O.S.R.D. and the National Research Council?

A. Yes, very full.

What was effected as a result of this work was a new method of producing the explosive. This was a Canadian development. This work was classified as secret during the war and information with regard to it was restricted to a definite number of authorized persons. As late as March, 1946, information with regard to RDX had not been released. The work done in Canada was done for the National Research Council by its Associate Committee on Explosives and its Sub-Committee on Research and Development. Dr. J. H. Ross, the Chairman of this Sub-Committee, and Boyer, working under him, were directly in charge in Canada for the Research Council in connection with the main project of the development of this new process for producing RDX. This work was carried on at McGill University, Montreal.

In addition to this project, there were a number of other projects on explosives undertaken during the war, the information with respect to which came to Boyer by reason of his membership on the Sub-Committee. On some of these projects he also worked himself. In connection with RDX a number of written progress reports were made from time to time commencing in November, 1942, many of which were written by Boyer. All were secret documents. Dr. Cambron described Boyer as an outstanding man in Canada on the chemistry of explosives.

Boyer, who was born in Montreal, graduated in 1930 from McGill University with the degree of B.Sc. and in 1935 received his Ph.D. in

chemistry. He did postgraduate work at Harvard, Vienna and Paris, returning to Canada in 1937. Until the outbreak of war he did no work.

With regard to himself he testified:

A. I have worked in organizations in which there were Communists and in which I knew there were Communists, and I have worked very closely with Communists, but I have never held a party card nor paid dues, etc.

Q. Have you ever made contributions to the work of the Communist party?

A. I made contributions.

Q. Financial contributions?

A. Yes.

In the fall of 1939 he offered his services to the Canadian Government in any capacity and suggested that

I be sent to Russia without any diplomatic status or anything, in order to try and find out what Russia's real attitude to the war was.

Although Boyer had taken "some lessons" in the Russian language, he says he had no reason to believe at that time that he would be received in Russia and that he had met no Russians and made no contacts. He was not sent.

In June, 1940, Boyer offered his services to the head of the Chemistry Department at McGill, who suggested he go to the University of Toronto where research had commenced. Boyer did so, in July of that year, and worked there on explosives research until September 1st, 1940, without salary and paying his own expenses. He is, as Gouzenko said, financially independent. His particular research work at this time included work on a method of preparing picric acid, a high explosive (H.E.).

As arranged before he went to Toronto, Boyer returned to McGill in September, where he began work under Dr. Ross. Here he worked on a number of projects, including picric acid, and he says that:

it was almost at the very start that we had the idea that we might be able to make RDX in a way that it had never been made before.

He also testified:—

Q. May I ask you now if at the time this thought came to you, RDX had been used at all since the outbreak of the war on September 1, 1939, down to the time you are speaking of?

A. I don't think it had been used.

Q. Were there reasons why it was not used? Had it not reached a stage of development that permitted its use?

A. No, I think production was not sufficiently great. There was not enough of it.

Q. Then you say, 'We thought it might be made in an entirely different way.' When you say 'we' are you speaking of Dr. Ross and yourself?

A. And a student, a graduate student.

Q. What was his name?

A. Schiessler.

Q. That idea came to you when in 1940?

A. In September or October; October, I should say.

Q. And did you start at that work at once?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you use the same elements to produce your RDX as the British use?

A. Oh, no, that was the main difference.

Q. There were different elements?

A. Different elements.

Q. But you produced practically the same thing?

A. That is correct."

As to reports made in connection with this work, he said:—

A. We reported—well, the reports were not made out to anybody, but they went to the National Research Council. By then Toronto was reporting and McGill was reporting regularly.

Q. To National Research?

A. To the National Research Council.

Q. But if you did make a report personally, did you give it to McGill or did you send it to Ottawa here?

A. No. I would write the report and it would be typed by Dr. Maass' secretary; duplicated in McGill, and then forwarded to Ottawa.

Q. To the National Research Council?

A. That is right.

Q. A copy of that would be retained in your hands at McGill?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. And it would be secret to you, Dr. Ross, Schiessler, Dr. Maass and Dr. Maass' secretary, who typed it?

A. Yes.

Early in his employment in connection with the work, Boyer took the oath of secrecy. In the fall of 1941 he became a member of the staff at McGill as lecturer in chemistry, being promoted to assistant professor in the fall of 1944. The results of the work in RDX are best described by Boyer himself:—

Q. As you proceeded with your work and found that your belief that a new method would be more successful, did that mean that RDX could be used to a greater extent?

A. Well, what it meant was that it could be produced in Canada and later in the United States by this new method which at least at that time seemed a far better method.

Q. And it enabled much larger quantities to be produced?

A. Yes.

Q. So that as a result of your work it did mean that RDX could be used much more extensively than it had been?

A. Yes. You understand, not just my work; there were hundreds of people involved.

Q. I quite understand that, Dr. Boyer. You continued to experiment with the project at least down to the end of 1944, did you?

A. Yes.

Q. I take it that even then it was a matter that could be pursued further and developed?

A. Oh, definitely.

Q. It still has possibilities?

A. Yes.

Q. Very great possibilities?

A. Yes.

Q. But whether you were employed by McGill or whether you were ever paid or whether you had received an actual grant, from the time that you began to work on RDX research in McGill, commencing in September, 1940, you were doing that work for the National Research Council and reporting the results to the National Research Council?

A. Definitely, yes.

He says that by May, 1945, he had finished his work. A plant to manufacture this explosive was commenced outside Shawinigan Falls in the fall of 1941 and Boyer says that production by the St. Maurice Chemical Company began in the spring of 1942 approximately. Previously in June, 1941, a pilot plant was built. Boyer said:—

Q. Do you know anything about the pilot plant at Grand'Mére?

A. Yes—well—

Q. First of all, describe what a pilot plant is.

A. Well, after the reaction has been completed in the laboratory, in the research laboratory, in beakers and small flasks, and that reaction is to be put into production, before the actual building of a plant, a pilot plant is usually built. That may have a capacity of anywhere from a few pounds to perhaps a ton, depending on the scale in which the reaction is to be carried out. That pilot plant is really a sort of working model of the plant which it is expected will follow as the plant procedure, as it were, is worked out in the pilot plant. In 1941, around June I would say, or July, a pilot plant was built outside Shawinigan Falls—no, I beg your pardon, in Shawinigan Falls, in order to bring this reaction which we had worked out in the laboratory on to a pilot plant scale.

At this point, although it bears a date much later than the period under discussion, we reproduce a draft telegram prepared by Motinov to be sent by Zabotin.

To the Director,

The Professor advised that the Director of the National Chemical Research Committee Stacey told him about the new plant under construction: Pilot Plant at Grand Mere, in the Province of Quebec. This plant will produce 'Uranium'. The engineering personnel is being obtained from McGill University and is already moving into the district of the new plant. As a result of experiments carried out with Uranium it has been found that Uranium may be used for filling bombs, which is already being done in a practical way. The Americans have undertaken wide research work, having invested 660 million dollars in this business.

(sgd.) Grant.

Whether it was actually sent Gouzenko could not say. The only importance of this document is that it shows that Boyer was communicating information with respect to the RDX plant, although this cable shows that in this particular instance in the transmission of the information from Boyer to Rose to Motinov, by word of mouth, a confusion developed between the RDX plant and the plant at Chalk River for the production of uranium. Examined on this subject, Boyer said:

Q. Then I refer you to Exhibit 35. This is a telegram, or what is believed to be a telegram, in the handwriting of one of the employees of the Russian Embassy, addressed to *The Director*, and it reads this way:

The Professor advised that the director of the National Chemical Research Committee Stacey told him about the new plant under construction; Pilot Plant at Grand'Mère in the province of Quebec.

The pilot plant that you have referred to is the pilot plant for the manufacture of RDX, some three or four or five miles outside of Shawinigan?

A. Yes.

Q. That would be what; eight or ten miles from Grand'Mère?

A. That is possible; I am not sure how many miles there are between Shawinigan and Grand'Mère.

Q. Do you know of a pilot plant for anything at Grand'Mère itself?

A. No.

Q. There is a pilot plant for RDX where?

A. In Shawinigan.

Q. In Shawinigan itself?

A. Yes.

Q. I think you said about five miles away?

A. No, the pilot plant was in Shawinigan.

Q. You know of no pilot plant at Grand'Mère or anything?

A. No.

Q. Then it goes on:—

'The engineering personnel is being obtained from McGill University and is already moving into the district of the new plant.'

Does that make sense to you, even in connection with the pilot plant at Shawinigan?

A. No.

Q. Did any of the engineering personnel from McGill take part in constructing the plant?

A. No.

Q. Or in installing the equipment in it?

A. No.

Q. All that would be done, as far as the McGill people were concerned, including yourself, might be certain discussions with the engineers as to the advisability of a certain form of plant or installation?

A. That is correct.

Q. Then it goes on:—

As a result of experiments carried out with uranium it has been found that uranium may be used for filling bombs, which is already being done in a practical way.

Did you ever convey that information to Fred Rose?

A. No, but one day Steacie did talk to Dr. Winkler and me at McGill, and did say that the Americans had spent a great deal of money on this atomic research, and he added that none of it was a secret except the engineering and the chemistry. I may well have mentioned to Fred Rose what he said.

Q. The last sentence on Exhibit 35 is:—

The Americans have undertaken wide research work, having invested in this business 660 million dollars.

Having in mind the information you got from Steacie; the fact that what Steacie told you is said to be set out here, and the reference to the investment of the Americans of \$660,000,000 in the business, would indicate this, would it not—and I want you to correct me if I am wrong; that Rose did transmit at least part of a conversation which you had had with him, where you spoke of Steacie telling you certain things, including the investment of the Americans? That part might be an accurate transcription?

A. That might be a highly garbled account of what I said.

Q. There was a talk between Steacie and yourself and somebody else?

A. Yes.

Q. And reference was made in that talk to the amount being invested by the Americans?

A. I don't know the amount.

Q. Does the \$660,000,000 register with you?

A. He may have mentioned it; I don't remember.

Q. So there is that much in it; a talk between Steacie and yourself and a third person; a large American investment for the purpose of manufacturing the atomic bomb, or experimenting with it; and would it be a fair assumption from the fact that this is in the

records in the Russian Embassy that Rose had transmitted the general conversation with you along those lines?

A. It might well be, yes.

Q. But it looks as though he had mixed up the pilot plant in connection with RDX and the pilot plant in regard to uranium; is that right?

A. Yes.

Boyer testified as to his acquaintance and association with the following persons;

SAM CARR

Q. 60-G? (*a photograph*)

A. Yes. That is Sam Carr.

Q. And who is Sam Carr?

A. Sam Carr is national organizer of the Labour-Progressive Party.

Q. How long have you known him?

A. For three or four years; I am not sure.

Q. Where did you meet him first, Dr. Boyer?

A. I met him at someone's house. I don't know whose house.

Q. In Montreal?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you meet him after that again? Have you met him on occasions?

A. Yes, I have met him either two or three times.

Q. And how recently have you met him? When was the last time, do you recall?

A. I can say a year ago. I am not sure.

Q. Had you ever known him prior to the formation of the Labour-Progressive Party?

A. No.

Q. Do you remember there was a time when there was a Communist Party — ?

A. I had heard of him.

Q. My question was, had you met him. There was a time when there was a Communist Party in Canada, officially so-called. Do you recall that?

A. Yes.

Q. And at a period it became an illegal organization?

A. Yes.

Q. And sometime in 1943, I think it was, the Labour-Progressive Party came into existence?

A. Yes.

Q. And what would you say as to the Labour-Progressive Party being the former Communist Party under another name?

A. Well, I think it has all of the members of the former Communist Party in it, or most of them, and certainly a good many people who were not members of the Communist Party, as far as I know.

Q. Before you met Sam Carr, had you known of him as an active member of the Communist Party?

A. Yes.

Q. Before it became illegal?

A. Yes.

Q. And is it within your memory that when the Communist Party became illegal, Mr. Carr disappeared for a while, as far as the general public knew?

A. Yes.

Q. During the time between the period when the Communist Party became illegal and the Labour-Progressive Party was formed, did you have occasion to see Sam Carr?

A. No.

Q. Do you see any difference, Dr. Boyer, between the ideology of the Labour-Progressive Party and that of the Communist Party?

A. Frankly, no.

FRED ROSE

Q. Then will you look at Exhibit 60-H? (*a photograph*)

A. Yes.

Q. Who is that?

A. Fred Rose.

Q. And you know him personally?

A. Yes.

Q. How long have you known Mr. Rose?

A. Since 1938.

Q. Had you known of him before you met him personally?

A. Yes.

Q. And in 1938 when you met him you had known of him as what?

A. As one of the leaders of the Communist Party. I don't know whether he had an official title or not.

Q. But he was extremely active in the Party?

A. Yes.

- Q. So you met him immediately after you came back from Europe?
- A. No. I met him a year and a half after.
- Q. You came back in 1937?
- A. That is right; I came back in February, 1937, and I met Fred Rose, as near as I can recall, in the fall of 1938.
- Q. And at that time you knew of him as an extremely active member of the Communist Party?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. And from then on did you see him often?
- A. No. I have seen him, I would say, ten or twelve times since then.
- Q. During the time between the declaration of illegality of the Communist Party and the formation of the Labour-Progressive Party, during that period did you ever see him?
- A. No.
- Q. So there would be a period, then, when he passed out of your knowledge?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. How soon after the formation of the Labour-Progressive Party at the Toronto convention, I think it was in 1943, did you next meet him?
- A. I am not sure. I can't recall.
- Q. And how many times have you seen him, say, in the last two years?
- A. Three or four times.
-
- Q. Did you meet him only on the one occasion?
- A. No, I didn't, although when he was elected apparently his real name was Moses Rosenberg.

MAJOR SOKOLOV

- Q. Who is that? (*Showing witness a photograph*)
- A. I met him once under the name of Sokolov.
- Q. And where did you meet him?
- A. He and his wife came to our flat.
- Q. In Montreal?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you meet him only on the one occasion?
- A. Yes.

Q. And he was going by the name of Sokolov, was he?
A. Yes.
Q. You knew that he was what?
A. I knew him as a tank inspector at the Angus shops.
Q. Did he wear a uniform?
A. No, but I have seen him in uniform.
Q. You have seen him in uniform?
A. Yes.
Q. Was he in uniform when he came to your flat?
A. No.
Q. Was he introduced by a military title, as Major Sokolov or Captain Sokolov?
A. No.
Q. Just Mr. Sokolov?
A. That is right.
Q. And his wife was with him?
A. Yes.
Q. At that time did you know he was inspecting tanks at the Angus shops?
A. I was told that.
Q. And did you know what nationality he was?
A. Yes.
Q. And that was what?
A. Russian.
Q. Were they manufacturing tanks in the Angus shops for Russia.
A. That is what I thought.

FRED POLAND

Q. Who is that? *(Showing witness a photograph)*
A. Fred Poland.
Q. How long have you known him?
A. Ever since he came to Montreal, which I think was in the summer of 1939; 1938 or 1939, I am not sure.
Q. And do you know anything about his political sympathies?
A. Well, I know he is sympathetic to the old Communist Party and the present Labour-Progressive Party, or that he was when I last saw him, which is a few years ago now.

- Q. What was the last year you saw him that you can recall?
- A. Oh, I saw him once since he entered the Air Force. I saw him about two years ago, I think, once.
- Q. That was the last time you have seen him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. But he never made any secret of his political leanings?
- A. No.

DURNFORD SMITH

- Q. Do you know a man named Durnford Smith?
- A. Yes. Oh, yes; I can recognize him now.
- Q. How long have you known Smith?
- A. Oh, I have seen him perhaps three times in my life.
- Q. When did you see him last?
- A. He dropped into my office a few months ago, when he was in Montreal. I have seen him perhaps once a year in the last three years.
- Q. Are you aware of what his political ideas are?
- A. Not too well.
- Q. Have you any idea as to what they are?
- A. Well, I know he reads *The Tribune*; that is all he has ever told me about his political views.
- Q. *The Tribune* is the newspaper published in Toronto by the Labour-Progressive Party?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. And has a strong Communist ideology?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. How do you know he reads it? Does he carry it around in his pocket?
- A. He told me.

SCOTT BENNING

- Q. Who is that? (*Showing a photograph*)
- A. That is Scott Benning.
- Q. Do you know him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How long have you known him?
- A. Oh, I have known him for a good many years, but I have not seen him for several years. I met him, I think, in 1938, in Montréal.

- Q. Do you know what his political leanings are?
A. I think I do.
Q. And what would you say they were?
A. Labour-Progressive.
Q. Or in other words, Communist?
A. Yes.
Q. And he has expressed himself to you on the subject, has he?
A. Well, he has never told me he was a Communist.
Q. What has he told you?
A. From the way he spoke, from his views on various things, I would say he was.

GORDON LUNAN

- Q. Who is that? (*Showing a photograph*)
A. Gordon Lunan.
Q. How long have you known him?
A. I have known him since the same period, 1938 or 1939.
Q. And how long is it since you saw him last?
A. I saw him last just before he flew to England.
Q. That would be this year? (1946).
A. Oh, yes.
Q. Early in January?
A. Was it early in January? I would have said late.
Q. Sometime in January, anyway?
A. Yes.
Q. And what was the occasion of your seeing him then?
A. I had written an article for *Canadian Affairs*.
Q. And he was —?
A. Editor. It was published in September, and I had not received the cheque, so I had lunch with him and his wife, and asked him, since he was leaving, how I should go about getting the cheque.
Q. And as a result of that, did you get your cheque?
A. Yes. Before that, I had not seen him since he joined the army.
Q. Had you occasion to learn what his political ideology was?
A. Yes.
Q. And what was that?
A. Labour-Progressive.
Q. Or Communist, whichever you like to call it?
A. Yes.

- Q. Is the "Labour-Progressive" label deemed a more respectable label?
A. That is the current one.

H. S. GERSON

- Q. Who is that? (*Showing photograph*)
A. Sam Gerson.
Q. And how long have you known him?
A. Well, I have only met him once.
Q. And when was that, Dr. Boyer?
A. I think it was in 1942; I am not sure.
Q. And what was the occasion?
A. Well, his brother-in-law, Norman Lee, told me that he had come to Montreal and was seeking technical work, so could he come over and see me, which he did; and I telephoned Dr. Ross down at the Department of Munitions and Supply and asked him whether he needed someone who had this man's training, and this man went down to see him.
Q. And as a result of that, he did start to work for Dr. Ross?
A. I don't know whether he started to work for Dr. Ross, but he worked in the Department of Munitions and Supply.
Q. You spoke of him and Mr. Lee as being brothers-in-law. Does that mean they had married sisters?
A. Yes.
Q. So that Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Gerson were sisters?
A. Yes.
Q. And at the time you saw Mr. Gerson did you have any discussion as to political ideology?
A. No; none whatever.

DAVID SHUGAR

- Q. Who is that? (*Showing photograph*)
A. David Shugar.
Q. How long did you know him?
A. I have known him since the fall of 1944.
Q. And how well?
A. No, I take it back. I met him once in 1943.
Q. And again in 1944?
A. Again in 1944; yes.

Q. How well did you know him?

A. Well; I know him well.

Q. And do you know what his political ideology is?

A. Yes.

Q. And it is what?

A. Labour-Progressive, or Communist.

Q. If you know Shugar well, you must have met him more than twice?

A. I did not mean to say I met him only twice. I say I met him first in 1943; then I did not meet him again until 1944.

Q. Since then you have met him frequently?

A. Since that time I have met him a good many times, say fifteen times.

Q. And how was it; what was the occasion that you got to know him so well?

A. Through the Canadian Association of Scientific Workers.

Q. That is an organization which was formed how?

A. Well, that is how I first met Shugar. He came to Montreal in the fall of 1943, and made the suggestion that there should be such an organization formed. We talked about it all that fall and winter, but nothing happened. Then in the summer of 1944 a group of us in Montreal formed a Montreal branch, and then other branches were formed. Since that time I saw Shugar a good many times.

Q. So it was Shugar who was responsible for the formation of the organization, which was first formed in Montreal and then branches were formed in different parts of Canada. Is that right?

A. Well, I would not say he was responsible. He was the first person I heard speak of it.

Q. As far as you know, it was his idea?

A. Yes.

FRANK CHUBB

Q. And who are on that? (*Showing picture*)

A. Frank Chubb was the secretary. He should have left now and resigned, but he was the secretary up till now.

Q. And what were his political affiliations?

A. Labour-Progressive.

Q. Communist?

A. Yes.

Q. Definitely so, I imagine?

A. Definitely so.

NORMAN VEALL

Q. And the Executive consist of whom?

A. There are two others; there is Dr. P. R. Wallace, whom I have already mentioned as chairman of the Montreal branch, and Norman Veall.

Q. Oh, you know him?

A. Yes.

Q. And what are his leanings?

A. Definitely L.P.P., Communist. He is British.

A. NUNN MAY

Q. Then I show you Exhibit 142. (Photograph) Do you know that gentleman?

A. Yes.

Q. Who is that?

A. His name is May; I do not know his first name.

Q. Do you know him personally?

A. Yes. He was a member of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Association of Scientific Workers while he was in Canada.

Q. How well did you know him?

A. I met with him as a member of the executive once a week for several months.

Q. And did you learn during that time what his political ideology was?

A. I did not learn it, I suspected that he was also Communist.

FREDA LINTON

Q. Then I show you Exhibit 163. (Photograph) Do you know who that lady is?

A. Yes, I think that is Freda Linden, (Linton).

Q. Do you know her personally?

A. Yes.

Q. How long have you known her?

A. Fred Rose came to our house one night with her. I remember that it was Christmas Eve; I think it was 1941.

Q. 1941?

A. Or 1943; I am not sure which.

Q. At that time was Fred Rose in circulation?

A. Oh, it must have been after that, then.

- Q. It must have been after the Labour-Progressive Party was formed, or would it be before?
- A. Well, it must have been after it was formed, or at least after his reappearance.
- Q. Did he reappear before the Toronto convention, do you know?
- A. Oh, yes.
- Q. He did, even though the Communist Party was banned?
- A. Yes, but those Communist members of the Communist Party were released.
- Q. After Russia came into the war; is that it?
- A. I don't remember exactly when it was; sometime, I think, before the Labour-Progressive Party was formed.
- Q. So that at some time around that period he came to your house with Miss Linden?
- A. Yes.
- Q. It is Miss Linden, is it not; not Mrs.?
- A. As far as I know, it is Miss Linden.
- Q. And what was the purpose of that visit?
- A. Merely social.
- Q. Did you see her again after that?
- A. Yes, I have seen her a few times on the street, because she worked in the International Labour Office, which is on McGill Campus.
- Q. Was she ever in your house again?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you have occasion to meet her after that introduction to her at your house?
- A. No. I beg pardon?
- Q. Did you have occasion to meet her after the interview with her at your house? The time Fred Rose brought her to your house?
- A. I met her on the street, yes.
- Q. But other than just meeting on the street, did you have occasion to talk to her?
- A. Just casually on the street.
- Q. Do you know what her political leanings were?
- A. Well, I assumed what they were, since she was with Fred Rose.
- Q. Did she ever say anything in your hearing which could lead you to form an opinion, apart from the company she was keeping?
- A. I don't remember what she said the night she came to our house, but she may have. I don't remember.

Q. But you distinctly catalogued her in your own mind as a Communist?

A. Definitely.

Reference may here be made to an entry in Col. Zabotin's above mentioned notebook made after his arrival in Canada when he was gathering up the threads of the previously existing espionage organization headed by Sokolov. This entry reads:

Contact

1. Freda

Jewess—works as a co-worker in the International Bureau of Labour.

A lady friend of the Professor.

Boyer also belonged to a Communist "study group" in 1938. He testified:—

Q. You are familiar with the process that the Labour-Progressive Party and the Communist Party follow, of building up study groups of various individuals for purposes of studying Marxian ideology?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever been a member of one of those groups yourself?

A. Yes.

Q. More than one, or just one?

A. Just one.

Q. When was that?

A. That was in 1938.

Q. In Montreal?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did that group function?

A. Oh, from October till the spring, I would say.

Q. Of what year?

A. Of 1939.

Q. And what happened to it? Would you just cease?

A. Yes.

Q. And have you been a member of any group of that kind since?

A. No.

Q. Where did it used to meet?

A. At various houses.

Q. Would it be at your house at times?

A. Yes.

Q. You told us earlier about having been a member of a study group in Montreal in 1938 when you returned to this country? A.

A. Yes.

Q. How did you come to become a member of that group?

A. I was invited to participate.

Q. By whom?

A. By Norman Veall; I beg your pardon, Norman Lee.

Q. I have just forgotten, but have you told us already about Lee's ideology?

A. Yes, Communist.

Q. And so that was a Communist group or a group which was, we will say, organized by a Communist or Communists?

A. Yes.

Q. Was that your first introduction to the subject?

A. Yes.

On the solicitation of Rose, Boyer communicated complete information with regard to RDX. We think it best to quote Boyer himself:—

Q. I should like to go a little more fully with you into your relations with Fred Rose, and certain conversations you had with him at which certain of the things you were working on were discussed. Will you tell me how the first of those occasions arose, please, and when?

A. I am not sure when. I think it was early in 1943.

Q. And how did he approach you?

A. He telephoned me and asked me to go to his apartment, and asked me to reveal to him what we were doing in RDX. I told him we had worked out a new process; what materials went into that reaction—mind you, I am not sure that this is the first time I had those conversations with him, but I also told him all the ways in which RDX were used.

Q. This was a conversation in his residence?

A. Yes.

Q. Just the two of you present?

A. Yes. His wife may have been in the apartment somewhere.

Q. But she was not present at the immediate conversation?

A. No.

Q. You and he were in a room by yourselves?

A. Yes.

Q. And did you understand from him at that time that he was asking for this information, and why?

A. Yes.

Q. You were willing to give the information you did give to Mr. Rose, knowing that it would be transmitted by him to the Russians?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know it was to be transmitted by him through somebody in the Soviet Embassy here in Ottawa?

A. That I did not know. I didn't know —

Q. But you did know it was to go to the Russians in some way or other?

A. Yes.

Q. He made that quite clear?

A. Yes.

Q. Then just to make sure we have it, you first of all told him that a new process had been worked out?

A. Well, as I remember it, that was already known; that release had already been made.

Q. That is, that the newspapers had said that the Canadians had worked out a new process?

A. Yes.

Q. Then you told him all the chemical components of that process?

A. Yes.

Q. That had not appeared in the newspapers?

A. That is correct.

Q. So that was information that could only have been obtained either through official sources or through some person like yourself who knew it?

A. That is correct.

Q. How many components are there in the process?

A. Three.

Q. And you gave him those three?

A. Yes.

The witness was then asked to name the three components and started to do so. He then corrected himself and said there were four components; but we think it not proper to give them here.

The witness also said:—

Q. You say, Dr. Boyer, that even with that information they could not have manufactured RDX in that formula; am I correct in understanding that?

A. They could have manufactured it in flasks in a laboratory, but I mean they could not build a plant around that information.

Q. It would be a good start, would it?

A. They could then design a plant, I imagine.

Q. In other words, there are different stages; there is the laboratory stage, the pilot plant stage and the mass production stage?

A. That is correct.

Q. What you gave Rose was the laboratory stage?

A. That is right.

Q. And many of the Russian chemists are men of very considerable capacity, are they not?

A. There is some doubt about that.

Q. You were concerned only with the laboratory stage?

A. That is right.

Q. You told us a little earlier in the day that when you had finished your stage the engineers who were designing the plant would get in touch with you to see whether what they were designing would carry out what you had in mind, so far as your process was concerned?

A. Yes, but once it goes into the plant the engineers are the men who make the decisions, really.

Q. If the Russian chemists came to the Russian engineers with the information you gave, they could get to work and design a plant by which they could make RDX according to your formula?

A. They might and they might not. I suppose the answer is yes. I mean the engineering for this reaction was quite unique. It required a different kind of reactor altogether from the ordinary reactor.

Q. Is the doubt in your mind doubt as to the capacity of the Russian engineers?

A. No.

Q. Do you not think that if they had that formula they could design a plant, eventually at least?

A. Oh, yes.